

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michele Tyrpak on 9-14-2009.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims

Please cancel claim 15.

Please cancel non-elected claims 16-29.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-14 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The cited prior arts fail to disclose or suggest the step of coating said valve metal electrode base with a coating layer of an electrochemically active coating on said valve metal electrode base, said coating consisting of a mixture of ruthenium oxide, titanium oxide and one or more of tin oxides or antimony oxides, said mixture providing from at least about 10 mole percent up to about 30 mole percent ruthenium oxide, and at least about 50 mole percent up to about 85 mol percent titanium oxide, basis 100 mole percent of the metal oxide content in the coating, in combination with all other limitation in the claims.

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6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Binh X. Tran whose telephone number is (571)272-1469. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nadine Norton can be reached on (571) 272-1465. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Binh X Tran

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Primary Examiner
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